

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method comprising:
5 delivering an electrical signal to a first position in or adjacent to a cardiac chamber;
sensing a potential generated by the delivered electrical signal at a second position; and
determining a parameter related to cardiac geometry based,
10 at least in part, on the sensing.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the delivering delivers the electrical signal using a unipolar configuration.
- 15 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the first position is in a right ventricle or in a vessel.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the delivering delivers the electrical signal using a ring electrode.
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5. The method of claim 1, wherein the second position is in a vessel.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein the second position is in a
25 cardiac chamber.
7. The method of claim 1, wherein the sensing senses the potential using a unipolar configuration.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein the sensing occurs during a refractory period.

5 9. The method of claim 1, wherein the delivering occurs during a refractory period.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein the determining determines a ventricular volume.

10 11. The method of claim 1, wherein the determining determines a ventricular distance.

12. The method of claim 1, wherein the determining determines a left ventricular diameter.

15 13. The method of claim 1, wherein the parameter relates to a stage of congestive heart failure.

14. The method of claim 1, further comprising delivering cardiac therapy based, at least in part, on the sensing.

15. An apparatus comprising:
means for delivering an electrical signal to a first position in or adjacent to a cardiac chamber;
25 means for sensing a potential generated by the delivered electrical signal at a second position; and
means for determining a parameter based, at least in part, on the means for sensing wherein the parameter relates to cardiac geometry.

30 16. The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the means for delivering an electrical signal comprises a power source, a lead and an electrode.

17. The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the mean for sensing a potential comprises an electrode, a lead and a circuit.

5 18. The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the means for determining a parameter comprises an implantable and programmable device.

10 19. An implantable cardiac system comprising:
an implantable device having a case capable of acting as an electrode;
one or more implantable leads having one or more electrodes wherein the one or more leads are connectable to the device; and
circuitry that is operative to deliver an electrical signal to a first
15 electrode position in or adjacent to a cardiac chamber, sense a potential generated by the delivered electrical signal at a second electrode position, and determine a parameter based, at least in part, on the sensing wherein the parameter relates to cardiac geometry.

20 20. The system of claim 19 wherein the one or more implantable leads comprises at least two leads including a first lead that is configured for placement in a right ventricle and a second lead that is configured for placement in a left ventricle.

25 21. The system of claim 20 wherein the circuitry is operative to deliver an electrical signal to a first electrode carried by the first lead, and to sense a potential generated by the delivered electrical signal at a second electrode carried by the second lead.